

## Message Text

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PAGE 01      BRASIL 06221 152200Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MMO-04 CU-04 /060 W

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O R 152120Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6826

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 6221

REF: STATE 169682, BRASILIA 5840, BRASILIA 5880, BRASILIA 5987,  
BRASILIA 6191 RIO DE JANEIRO 2663

1. PRESS COVERAGE ON BICENTENNIAL HAS BEEN HEAVY IN ALL MAJOR CITIES AND IMPRESSIVELY FAVORABLE. VIRTUALLY EVERY MAJOR UNIVERSITY HELD SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS AT THE MUNICIPAL, FEDERAL AND STATE LEVEL. FOR EXAMPLE, IN PORTO ALGRE, RIO GRANDE DO SUL STATE, THE MUNICIPAL CHAMBER AND TWO LEGAL ASSOCIATIONS SPONSORED THREE SPECIAL SESSIONS IN HONOR OF THE BICENTENNIAL. IN FORTALEZA, CEARA STATE, THE STATE LEGISLATURE HELD A FORMAL COMMEMORATIVE SESSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL. IN BRASILIA THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE FEDERAL CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES SPONSORED A LECTURE SERIES WHICH INCLUDED DISTINGUISHED BRAZILIAN AND AMERICAN SPEAKERS DISCUSSING THE IMPACT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION OVER THE LAST 200 YEARS. DETAILED LISTING OF THESE EVENTS FOLLOWS BY POUCH.

2. THE EXTENT, SPONTANEITY AND EVIDENT SINCERITY OF THESE MANY COMMEMORATIONS THROUGHOUT BRAZIL WAS IMPRESSIVE AND MOVING. THE UNITED STATES AND ITS INSTITUTIONS ARE RESPECTED IN BRAZIL AND THE MAJOR JOURNALS AT TIMES COMMENT FAVORABLY ON ASPECTS OF US DEMOCRACY. BUT BRAZILIAN MEDIA MORE GENERALLY HIGHLIGHT PROBLEMS IN US-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS (EG PRIMARILY ECONOMIC BUT ALSO  
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PAGE 02      BRASIL 06221 152200Z

POLITICAL) AND THERE ARE FREQUENT AND CRITICAL REFERENCES

TO US DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. DURING BICENTENNIAL, BRAZILIANS  
HAVE TAKEN A BROADER LOOK AT THE UNITED STATES FROM AN HISTORICAL  
PERSPECTIVE IN TERMS NOT ONLY OF THE DECLARATION OF  
INDEPENDENCE, OUR CONSTITUTION AND OUR OTHER DEMOCRATIC  
INSTITUTIONS, BUT ALSO OF WHAT OUR DEVELOPMENT HAS MEANT  
TO BRAZIL (E.G. AN INSPIRATION FOR BRAZIL'S OWN DEVELOPMENT)  
AND THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE GENERAL CONCLUSION DRAWN FROM THIS  
BICENTENNIAL RE-EXAMINATION HAS BEEN THAT THE EXAMPLE  
IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE. ONE THEME RELEVANT TO  
BRAZIL'S SITUATION EXPLICIT OR IMPLICIT IS MANY CASES OF THESE  
COMMEMORATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS HAS BEEN THAT THE PRESERVATION  
AND STRENGTHENING OF FREEDOMS THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF  
OUR DEVELOPMENT GIVES PROOF THAT LIBERTY IS CONSISTENT WITH  
GROWTH AND PROGRESS.  
CRIMMINS

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